(b) whether the Ministry of Railways has a time-bound programme for completion of this conversion work; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether allocations for this work are commensurate with that time-frame; and

(d) the status of extension of this project to Somnath and Kodinar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) Gauge conversion of Rajkot-Veraval rail line has been taken up where earthwork, bridge works, ballast supply etc. are in various stages of progress. Gauge conversion of Rajkot-Junagarh is targeted for completion during 2002-2003. Rs. 37.32 crore has been spent on this work upto March 2002 and an outlay of Rs. 35 crore has been provided during 2002-2003.

Target for completion of entire project has not yet been fixed, the project will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

(d) The survey for extension of this line upto Kodinar has been completed. The report is under examination. However, Government has approved extension of this line upto Somnath.

Maintenance of rail tracks

2493. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount spent annually by each Railway Division on rail track and related feature maintenance; and

(b) the number of maintenance projects underway under each Division and the estimated time taken for each project to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) (a) A Statement is attached. (See below).

(b) Repair and maintenance of Railway track is an on-going process. Maintenance works are carried out regularly depending upon the need. For ensuring safety of traffic, track is regularly inspected and corrective action taken promptly wherever required. However, safety is ensured at all levels and at all times and the Permanent Way Supervisors are

authorized to impose speed restriction as warranted without any reference to their superiors.

Renewal of track is also carried out on age-cum-condition basis depending upon availability of funds. In certain cases, the maximum permissible speed of a section is also reduced if the condition so warrants.

The track renewals works are presented to Parliament for approval.

The works sanctioned against renewals are normally completed in time span of 3-4 years subject to availability of funds.

Statement

Details of amount spent during 2001 -02 by each Railway Division on track maintenance

(Rs in crores)

Railways	Divisions and Amount spent during 2001 -02							
Cenlral Division Mum-ha	Brxsawa (CST)	Jhansi	Jabalpur	Nagpur		Bhopal	Fune	
Amount	37.44	41.67	44.48	47.48	3174	1807	3005	757
Eastern Division Howrah	Seath	Asansd	Dhrbade	Danapur	Mughal Sarai	Mate		
Amount	3328	2942	37.14	4480	30.78	2338	1351	
Northern Divisions	Alahabad	Boner	Dah	Ambala	Ferozpur	Moradabad	Luknow	Jochpu
Amount	5801	32.68	37.54	31.64	3523	4686	4194	2685
North Eastern Izatnagar	Lucknow	Varanasi	Sonpur	Samastipur				
Division Amount	2142	29.96	2555	2289	20.34			
Northeast Frontier	Kalihar	Alipurdua r	Lundng	Tinsukha				
Divisions Amount	27.76	4659	3142	1091				
Southern Division	Chenai	Palghat	Triandrum	Bangalore	Mysore	Trichy	Madura	
Amount	5635	4428	2857	2642	1108	2297	2869	
South Central Secunderabad	Vijayawda	Cuntakal	Butt	Hyderabad				
Divions Amount	5520	55.10	4080	27.60	2600			
South Division Kruda Road	Walter	Sambalpur	Nagpur	Bilaspur	Kharagpur	Chakradharpur	Adra	Eastern
Amount	35.86	4476	1860	3215	5696	3891	4921	4481
Western Divisions Central	Mumbai	Vadodroa	Rattam	Kota	Amer	Jaipur	Bhavnagar	Rajkot
Amount	3439	3664	3380	3984	2172	2678	1817	1732